GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:438
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2009
ALLOCATION UNDER PDS
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Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of ration card holders, category-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether some States failed to lift their quota of foodgrains;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the allocation for some States was less than their requirement; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): A statement indicating State-wise number of ration cards issued to BPL, AAY and APL households as updated by States/UTs on 30.6.2009 is at Annex-I.

(b)&(c): State-wise details of allocation and offtake of foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for 2008-09 are at Annex-II. Various reasons may contribute to low offtake by the State Governments. These include resource crunch faced by State/UT Governments, delay in payment to FCI, non-availability of railway rakes for movement, administrative or infrastructural problems created by natural calamities, bandhs, blockades, etc.

(d) & (e): Allocation of foodgrains under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is made for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families including Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of the Planning Commission projected on the population estimates of Registrar General of India as on 1.3.2000 or the number of families actually identified and ration cards issued to them by State Government, whichever is less. Accordingly, allocations of foodgrains for AAY and BPL categories are made @ 35 kg. per family per month for all accepted 6.52 crore families to all States/UTs.

Allocations under APL category are made depending upon the availability of stocks of food grains in Central Pool and past offtake. Allocations of rice under APL category during 2008-09 was made to States/UTs on the basis of average of offtake level during 2006-07 and 2007-08. However, allocations of wheat under this category were maintained at the level of 2007-08. In view of higher availability of food grains in the Central Pool, subsequently, additional allocations of wheat were made during 2008-09. Presently, these allocations range between 10 kg and 35 kg per family per month in different States/UTs.